

By: Cook

H.B. No. 1663

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a defendant's payment of costs associated with a court-appointed counsel.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Article 26.05(g), Code of Criminal Procedure, is amended to read as follows:

(g) If the court determines that a defendant has financial resources that enable the defendant [~~him~~] to offset in part or in whole the costs of the legal services provided, including any expenses and costs, the court shall order the defendant to pay during the pendency of the charges or, if convicted, as court costs the amount that it finds the defendant is able to pay. If at the time of sentencing the court determines that the defendant is unable to pay the total cost of the services provided, the court shall order the defendant to pay the unpaid portion as money becomes available to the defendant during the defendant's sentence, including money deposited in the defendant's trust account administered by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice under Section 501.014, Government Code.

SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only to a sentencing proceeding that commences on or after the effective date of this Act. A sentencing proceeding that commences before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the proceeding commenced, and the former law is continued in

1 effect for that purpose.

2 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.